

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 - 9 (Cancelled)

10 (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of~~ A method for transmitting content data over a computer network comprising the steps:

providing a first interface to a publisher to define content data objects;

providing a second interface to a user of a client computer to select content data objects from the publisher;

providing a third interface to the publisher and the user of the client computer to select payment terms and conditions for the transmission of content data objects from the publisher to the user;

providing a switching network to transmit content data objects from the publisher to the user upon request from the user; and

managing a billing process for causing transfer of payment from the user to the publisher in exchange for transmission of requested content data objects;

providing the first interface to a plurality of publishers, each defining different content data objects;

providing the second interface to a plurality of users of client computers, each capable of selecting content data objects from one or more of the plurality of publishers;  
wherein the content data objects are processed for transmission according to a type of client computing device operated by the user to access the content data objects; and

aggregating content data objects from one or more of the plurality of publishers in response to the request from the user.

11 (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of causing transfer of payments from the user to the one or more of the plurality of publishers in accordance to respective proportions of contributed content data objects transmitted to the user.

12 - 28 (Cancelled)

29 (Currently Amended) ~~The server computer of claim 27~~ A server computer coupled to one or more content provider computers, each operated by a publisher, and coupled to one or more client computers, each operated by a user, the server computer comprising:

first interface provided to each publisher to define content data objects;  
a second interface provided to each user to select content data objects from a publisher;  
a third interface provided to each publisher and each user to select payment terms and conditions for the transmission of content data objects from a publisher to a user;  
a fourth interface to a switching network for transmission of content data objects from a publisher to a user upon request from the user; and  
a billing process for causing transfer of payment from a user to a publisher in exchange for transmission of requested content data objects;

wherein the content data objects are transmitted from the publisher to the user upon the occurrence of a predetermined event.

30 (Currently Amended) ~~The server computer of claim 27~~ A server computer coupled to one or more content provider computers, each operated by a publisher, and coupled to one or more client computers, each operated by a user, the server computer comprising:

first interface provided to each publisher to define content data objects;  
a second interface provided to each user to select content data objects from a publisher;  
a third interface provided to each publisher and each user to select payment terms and conditions for the transmission of content data objects from a publisher to a user;  
a fourth interface to a switching network for transmission of content data objects from a publisher to a user upon request from the user; and

a billing process for causing transfer of payment from a user to a publisher in exchange for transmission of requested content data objects;  
wherein the content data objects are processed for transmission according to a type of client computing device operated by a user to access the content data objects.

31 - 35 (Cancelled)

36 (Currently Amended) ~~The server computer of claim 35~~ A server computer coupled to one or more content provider computers, each operated by a publisher, and coupled to one or more client computers, each operated by a user, the server computer comprising:

first interface provided to each publisher to define content data objects;  
a second interface provided to each user to select content data objects from a publisher;  
a third interface provided to each publisher and each user to select payment terms and conditions for the transmission of content data objects from a publisher to a user;  
a fourth interface to a switching network for transmission of content data objects from a publisher to a user upon request from the user;  
a billing process for causing transfer of payment from a user to a publisher in exchange for transmission of requested content data objects; and  
an aggregating process for combining content data objects from one or more of the plurality of publishers in response to the request from a user;

wherein the billing process causes a transfer of payments from the user to the one or more of the plurality of publishers in accordance to respective proportions of contributed content data objects transmitted to the user.

37 - 40 (Cancelled)